21st December 1953]

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAY :—" Is it not a fact that fair price shops are being opened in industrial areas with a view to reducing the cost of living index so that the dearness allowance paid to workers may be less? When that is so, why does the Minister style the workers as a privileged class? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" They want an assured supply of rations to industrial labourers as if industrial labourers alone are suffering in this country. As a matter of fact, there are workers who are poorer than industrial workers and they have also got to be supplied. We have to take into consideration the entire population and pass necessary orders."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" சொர்க்கம் சோளம் சாப்பிட்டதால் அநேகம் பேர்கள் இறந்துபோனதாக பத்திரிகைகளில் செய்தி வந்தது. அப்படி எத்தனை பேர்கள் இறந்தார்கள்? அந்த சோளத்தில் என்ன கலந்திருந்தது என்பதை மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்ல முடியுமா? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Unfortunately, this question has absolutely no bearing on the main question."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" ஒரு கார்டுக்கு எவ்வளவு யூனிட் அரிசி கொடுக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைப்பற்றி மந்திரிகள் சொல்லுவார்களா? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Evidently the Member was attending to some other business when I was replying? "

Cases of death due to eating " mancharalikai fruit ".

* 182 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many cases of death were recorded in the Kollengode Hospital, Palghat taluk, South Malabar, recently by eating a fruit called " Mancharalikai " by starving people?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Two cases for the use of the fruit is reported to be due to family quarrels and not to starvation."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" സാർ, പാലക്കാട്ട താലൂക്കിൽ കൊല്ലങ്കോഡിൽ ജനങ്ങൾ പട്ടിണി സഹിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ കായ കഴിച്ചു ആത്മഹത്യ ചെയ്യുന്നതാണു് എന്ന വാസ്തവം ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മന്ത്രി അറിയുമോ? ഇതു വാസ്തവമാണെങ്കിൽ പട്ടിണിക്കുള്ള നിവാരണമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് എന്തെല്ലാമാണു് എടുക്കാൻ പോകുന്നതെന്നു അറിയേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ടു്."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Only eleven cases were admitted to the hospital and two of the persons admitted died because they were admitted rather late. I do not think that Palghat area is a deficit area in Malabar district."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Government have been parrying the question on deaths due to starvation. Will the Government tell us what they mean by ' death by starvation '? " 11-20 p.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Death due to want of food."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು " ಮಂಚಲನ್ನಾ " ಎಂದರೆ ಏನು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸುವಿರಾ "

[21st December 1953

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" That is the seed of the oleander plant. People who eat these seeds get poisoned."

Sri KUNHI MOHAMAD SHAFEE :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that famine generally leads to starvation? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" It depends upon the degree of famine prevalent in any particular place."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" സർ, ഈ കായ വളരെ വിഷമുള്ള കായയാണെന്നും, ഒരു വിധത്തിലും ഭക്ഷണം ലഭിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് ഇന്നു ഇഞ്ചിഞ്ചായി മരിക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ ഈ വിഷക്കായ തിന്നു മരിക്കുന്നതാണ് നല്ലതെന്ന ബോദ്ധ്യത്താലാണു ഈ കായ ജനങ്ങൾ തിന്നതു എന്നും ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മന്ത്രി അറിയുമോ? ഈ കായ തിന്നുന്നതിനു ഇടവരുത്തിയ പരിതഃസ്ഥിതിയെപ്പററി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ട് വല്ല അന്വേഷണവും നടത്തുമോ ?. "

Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member putting the question in Malayalam calls the Hon. Minister as ' Avamanapatta Manthiri '. Is it in order to call him so? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The hon. Member who put the question in Malayalam has been consistently using the very proper and respectful term ' Bahumanapetta '. I am very sorry people take instead of hearing the word, uttered such words as are moving in their own brains." (Laughter.)

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" The persons referred to in the question ate these poisonous fruits because they were not getting any food for so many days. Therefore they thought it better to die all of a sudden by taking poison instead of dying inch by inch due to starvation. Did the Government conduct an enquiry into this matter and if so with what result? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" It is not the business of the hospital authorities to find out why a particular person took a particular poison. But this is one of the common poisons people take in many places. It finds a prominent mention in the Chemical Examiner's report."

Sri N. MAHALINGAM :—" On a point of order, Sir, ஒவ்வொரு அங்கத்தினருக்கும் தனது தாய் மொழியில் பேசியதை மறுபடியும் ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொல்வதற்கு அனுமதி கொடுத்திருக்கிறீர்களா ? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" He only explained the question in English."

Grant of residential scholarships to Harijan students.

* 183 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the rates of residential scholarships granted to the Harijan students in the City Colleges for the years 1952, 1953 and 1954;

(*b*) whether the residential scholarships for Harijans for the year 1953–54 has been reduced and if so, the reasons;